

SCHOOL DISTRICT 428 BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of a Regular Board Meeting

August 16, 2013

A regular meeting of the School District 428 Board of Education was held on Friday, August 16, 2013 at 10:00 a.m., in the Conference Room at the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice – Aftercare Building, 100 N. Western, Chicago, IL 60612.

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. by President Arthur D. Bishop. Present at the meeting were board members: Director of Juvenile Justice Arthur D. Bishop, James Gunnell, Carl Ellis, Donald Smoot, Tresa Dunbar and Anthony Grady. Others present were Superintendent of School District 428 Dr. Kye Gaffey, Deputy Director of Programs Jimmie Whitelow, Legal Counsel Beth Compton, Chief of Governmental Affairs Mary Reynolds, and Administrative Assistant Delores McKinney.

Minutes:

The floor was opened for introductions by Board President Bishop. President Bishop asked if there was an interest to elect a Vice President of the Board, noting that the Board President position is established by statute. Beth Compton and Mary Reynolds outlined the statutory roles of the School Board and a general discussion was held. Board members discussed their interest in establishing job descriptions and Board operational procedures through the establishment of rules. A handout was distributed on the fundamental duties of the Board according to the Illinois Association of School Boards. The Board will receive a draft set of operating procedures which will be developed by IDJJ staff for future consideration based on the Illinois Association of School Boards and Robert's Rules of Order.

After not meeting for several months Board members were pleased to have the opportunity to come together. The Board informed President Bishop and Superintendent Gaffey that they are here to support them in the best way possible. Board members took this opportunity to express their concerns and passion for School District 428.

As such, Board members expressed the following concerns:

Key information is needed regarding the School District to facilitate them becoming a productive School Board.

Budget information is needed for the School District.

How is the budget utilized for the youths' instructional program?

What is needed for the School District to move forward and be successful; i.e. money, programs, staff, etc.?

The School Board cannot function properly without meeting on a regular basis.

Superintendent Gaffey provided a brief update on a proposed Leadership Course for students (handout), the OEE (Online Educational Enhancement) Program, the Bridges to Pathway Program (Aftercare Program), and a proposed Student Information System (Youth 360) that will allow principals to readily print Report Cards and transcripts for students. The program also contains a Parent Portal that will allow parents to see students' grades. This type of Student Information System is presently being utilized in most school districts across the country.

President Bishop noted the statutory requirement to perform a fiscal audit and stated that the Department will explore possible avenues. President Bishop also offered to share general statistical data for the Department, including historical admissions and exits.

Mr. Ellis made a motion for Ms. Reynolds to bring some details on defining the roles of the Board from ISAB or Robert's Rules of Order. Ms. Dunbar seconded the motion and the motion carried. A motion was made by Ms. Dunbar to have monthly meetings. Mr. Ellis seconded the motion and the motion carried. A general request was made by the Board to have packets a week in advance so they could have a chance to review materials.

Mr. Grady made a motion to adjourn meeting at 12:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dunbar and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

The next meeting will be held September 20, 2013.